

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

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1. A method for management of a distributed data processing system, wherein the distributed data processing system is managed on behalf of a plurality of management customers, the method comprising:

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representing the distributed data processing system as a set of scopes, wherein a scope comprises a logical organization of network-related objects;

associating each scope with a management customer;
and

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allowing an administrative user to configure the distributed data processing system.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising:

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dynamically reconfiguring the distributed data processing system.

3. An apparatus for management of a distributed data processing system, wherein the distributed data processing system is managed on behalf of a plurality of management customers, the apparatus comprising:

5 means for representing the distributed data processing system as a set of scopes, wherein a scope comprises a logical organization of network-related objects;

10 means for associating each scope with a management customer; and

means for allowing an administrative user to configure the distributed data processing system.

4. The apparatus of claim 3 further comprising:

15 means for dynamically reconfiguring the distributed data processing system.

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5. A computer program product on a computer readable medium for managing a distributed data processing system, wherein the distributed data processing system is managed on behalf of a plurality of management customers, the computer program product comprising:

instructions for representing the distributed data processing system as a set of scopes, wherein a scope comprises a logical organization of network-related objects;

instructions for associating each scope with a management customer; and

instructions for allowing an administrative user to configure the distributed data processing system.

6. The computer program product of claim 5 further comprising:

instructions for dynamically reconfiguring the distributed data processing system.